



The official monthly publication of the Alabama Department of Public Safety

THE BLUE LIGHT



ALABAMA FUSION CENTER



THE HONORABLE BOB RILEY
Governor

COLONEL J. CHRISTOPHER MURPHY
Director

LT. COLONEL F.A. BINGHAM
Assistant Director

MAJOR JERRY CONNER
ABI Division

MAJOR JAMES LYONS
Administrative Division

MAJOR HUGH McCALL
Driver License Division

MAJOR ROSCOE HOWELL
Highway Patrol Division

MAJOR HERMAN WRIGHT
Protective Services Division

MAJOR CHARLES ANDREWS
Service Division



DECEMBER 2008
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Rufe delivers his keynote address at the opening ceremonies.

ALABAMA FUSION CENTER AFC GRAND OPENING

Local, state and federal officials welcomed a new asset in Alabama's efforts to combat terrorism and crime, with the opening of the Alabama Fusion Center Dec. 1. Vice Admiral Roger T. Rufe Jr. of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security delivered the keynote address and commended the center's work "to detect, prevent and respond to terrorism and crime."

Rufe, director of the Office of Operations, Coordination and Planning, Homeland Security, said, "Fusion centers are essential to information flow, and you need look no further than the incidents in Mumbai last week to see how critical these centers are, and how important information is in the prevention of terrorists' threats to our society."

A new concept to Alabama, the fusion center is a collaborative operation that receives and disseminates data aimed at combating terrorism and crime. DPS houses the center, provides its officer in charge and serves as co-chair of its steering committee, along with the Alabama Department of Homeland Security.

In his keynote address, Rufe acknowledged that the fusion center in Alabama is a wonderful facility, and that he is proud to have the Alabama Fusion Center as a major component in the creation of a national fusion center network. Rufe said Homeland Security promises to supply some 70 intelligence officers to work in fusion centers nationwide, and the arrival of both the Homeland Secure Data Network and the Homeland Security Information Network in Alabama will provide real-time sharing of threat information and situational awareness reporting capabilities.

"This center is built around the idea of two-way information sharing," said Fusion Center Commander Lt. Bill Eller. "We are the go-between for information from federal to local law enforcement."

As Eller explained, before 9/11, there was



no good way for local law enforcement to communicate with federal agencies, and vice versa. “Information grew to become a form of proprietary property. Agencies did not necessarily play nice with one another, and they wanted to work their own cases without others’ help,” said Eller.

“Local agencies in Florida had information of three individuals taking flight training well before the events of 9/11 unfolded. The information was available, but they didn’t know what to do with it. It is unfortunate that the federal government did not make that Venice, Fla., connection until Sept. 12,” Eller said.

In establishing the center, Alabama joins other states in a unified initiative of the Department of Justice and Homeland Security to ensure that law enforcement and criminal justice agencies have timely access to meaningful information. Support for the center is provided by Homeland Security grant funding.



***Rufe listens to Eller’s remarks
at the Alabama Fusion Center
opening ceremonies Dec. 1.***

“There are two types of fusion centers nationwide,” said Eller. “One type is strictly focused on combating terrorism. Ours has the broader focus of an ‘all crimes’ approach. We perform risk assessments on all major events held in the state, from the races at Talladega to the grand opening of the Tuskegee Airmen National Park. Our focus is trying to stay out in front of trends and to be more proactive than reactive in handling threats.”

Lt. Gen. Ronald Burgess, director of the Intelligence Staff in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, toured the Alabama Fusion Center Nov. 10. During the visit, Burgess learned about ALACOP, the state’s secure Web portal for authorized Alabama law enforcement and criminal justice officers, and Alabama Department of Homeland Security Director Jim Walker provided a briefing on Virtual Alabama. Burgess previously had toured 16 such facilities and noted that he was clearly impressed with the technologies available to the center and the commitment the center makes to information-sharing.

“The grand opening of the center represents nearly two years of diligent work,” said Eller. “We originally set



out to create the fusion center in February 2007, and our open house is to signify to everyone that we are here and we are fully operational. We’ve already stepped out to local law enforcement to educate them on what fusion is, and we are in the final stages of establishing a liaison program. We’ll have 15 strategically located throughout

***Burgess and Alabama Fusion Center
Assistant Commander Lt. Wade Pruitt
participate in a roundtable discussion with
federal, state, and local partners during
Burgess’s visit Nov. 10.***

the state, and that number will increase to 30 by FY '09."

When asked what is next for the center, Eller said there is a lot of work that still needs to be done, specifically with educating the public. "Just like when we had to educate local police to get them on board with the fusion concept, we need the involvement of the community to best be effective. The more people we have out there on the lookout for suspicious activity, the better. Whether it is the suspicious purchase of ammonium nitrate, or



Col. J. Christopher Murphy with FBI SAIC Debra Mack and Rufe at AFC opening.

the suspicious surveillance of oil rigs, the more eyes we have, the better we are able to prevent disasters from occurring. There might be nothing to said suspicious activity, and more often than not this is the case; but you never know when something may occur."

Rufe said that the United States is blessed not to have had any incidents since 9/11. "Our diligence in prevention is proof of the fusion concept," Rufe said. "Still, we remain in a period of heightened alert, and we are particularly vulnerable in this period of transition between presidencies.

"I firmly believe our next crisis will be prevented by a cop on the beat," said Rufe. "That cop will simply be gathering information and just doing his job, yet that is exactly how this fusion concept is proven to work."



Dec. 5 marks the 73rd anniversary of the founding of the Alabama Highway Patrol. Each year, DPS celebrates its rich heritage with an annual gathering of its charter and retired members.

This photo, taken in 1961, shows former First Lady Dixie Graves laying flowers at the site where her husband, Gov. Bibb Graves, commissioned the Alabama Highway Patrol in December 1935. Surrounding her are charter members of the Alabama Highway Patrol.



Motorists are finding themselves a little safer on Alabama's highways, thanks to the addition of 20 new troopers comprising Class 2008-B, who graduated and were sworn in Nov. 21. This commencement marks not only a first for its members, but also a first for the department as all graduating members are leaving the academy already certified for Commercial Vehicle Enforcement.

The day was marked as one of tremendous accomplishment for the class members, and smiles were seen on the faces of many family members and friends, who joined in with the celebration at the Alcazar Shrine Temple in Montgomery. Trooper Class 2008-B, a full-term class, joins the 16 graduates of 2008-A, the 12-week abbreviated class that graduated in September.

Capt. Randy Byrd, commander of the Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center, greeted those in attendance, including proud family members and friends, DPS directors and staff, and the instructors at the academy.

State Rep. Mike Hubbard addressed the trooper class members in a speech commending their decision to serve the public. "This is an important day for the state of Alabama. You are about to embark on a noble and essential journey. Understand who you are, and understand what you stand for. This is not just a career, but a privilege for a select few. Always take pride in being a state





trooper,” said Hubbard.

After the graduation address, Byrd presented the awards recognizing outstanding achievement in Class 2008-B. Brett Manuel and Ronald Redding received the Marksmanship Award for exhibiting the highest level of knowledge, skill and safety in firearms training. The Fitness Award went to Richard Bosarge for attaining the highest level of physical fitness. Johnathan Appling earned the Academic Award for achieving the highest overall grade point average, and Christopher Brown received the Highway Response and Driving Award for demonstrating a

high level of knowledge and ability in defensive and pursuit driving.

Ron Hodge II was selected as the class’s top performer overall, receiving the Commander’s Award for exhibiting exceptional leadership, professionalism and dedication to Class 2008-B and the Department of Public Safety, while maintaining a high academic average.

Class president Jesse Johnson spoke to *The Blue Light* of his experience at the academy. “Our instructors at the academy did an excellent job, and the program in Selma is top-notch and well thought-out. The transition from the classroom setting to field exercises was somewhat difficult, but the instructors understood these difficulties and their understanding made it a little easier for us.” Johnson acknowledged that among his experiences at the academy, being hit with a taser was among the most memorable.



Class chaplain Ronald Redding spoke of some of the challenges he faced at the academy. “Being a family man, it’s incredibly difficult spending time away from your wife and kids. We went a long time without phone privileges, and for me, that was definitely the hardest part about the academy.” Redding acknowledged the camaraderie and military principles of the academy were among his favorite parts of his experience at the academy. “Being a trooper is more than a job; it is a calling. Everyone at the academy comes away with something that you can’t really teach or

learn, but something you must experience, and that is a change of character,” said Redding.

Class secretary Eric Salvador perhaps best explained this change of character to The Blue Light by saying, “I believe the best way to describe the academy is by comparing it to ‘Extreme Home Makeover,’ but changing it to ‘extreme recruit makeover.’ Not a single person leaving the academy is the same as when they came in.

“I had no previous marching experience before setting foot in Selma, but by about the third day, I got my ‘military bearings’ with all of the marching and push-ups we were doing,” Salvador said. “The academy staff is tremendous, and they are all instrumental in guiding us along our journey. I can’t imagine there being a greater group of guys than the 20 of us graduating today. The department is really lucky to have such a wonderful group, and I’m glad to just have been a part of it all.”

Deputy Director Lt. Col. F.A. “Bubba” Bingham congratulated the troopers when he awarded diplomas. “Alabama has extremely high expectations of you,” he said. “Today you are forging a new tradition of service. We expect nothing less than the very best from you.” Bingham led the 20 new troopers in reciting their oath of office.

Following graduation, the new troopers reported to their initial assignments in Highway Patrol, where they will undergo 10 weeks of additional field training under the close supervision of veteran state troopers.



Sutley Receives ARA Retail Partner of the Year Award

Highway Patrol Tpr. Andy Sutley was presented the 2008 Alabama Law Enforcement Officer Retail Partner Award by the Alabama Retail Association at a Nov. 13 awards luncheon at the Montgomery Country Club.

Sutley was singled out by the ARA Board of Directors for his outstanding service to retailers and was chosen to receive the award from among those nominated for ARA Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, also awarded at the same ceremony.



Cpls. Jason Brosius and Mike Myrick, robbery-homicide detectives with the Montgomery Police Department, received the LEO Award for their work in identifying suspects and obtaining confessions in a Sept. 13 driveway robbery resulting in the death of a 53-year-old nurse.

Sutley is a K-9 handler and a member of HP's Felony Awareness Patrol. He has been a trooper since 2004 and previously served with the Dothan and Enterprise police departments. Sutley has well represented FAP in 2008, particularly with two stops that led to the arrest of major identity theft suspects.

In January, Sutley pulled over a man with a California and two Georgia driver licenses, all counterfeit, driving an Escalade with Tennessee tags. It is believed the suspect used a Discover card in one of the three names used on the driver licenses to buy a set of golf clubs, two GPS systems and a depth/fish finder from a major sporting goods retailer.

Then, in April, Sutley stopped a minivan with Pennsylvania plates. Among other highly suspicious items in the van, the trooper found seven complete stolen credit reports and fake driver licenses to match information on those reports. The trio in the van used the personal information from the credit reports and made \$16,000 in purchases at retailers in the Auburn/Opelika area, near the home address of one of the stolen identities.

All told so far in 2008, Sutley has made 20 felony arrests and conducted 160 commercial vehicle inspections. During the year, Sutley has seized marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamines, Ecstasy tablets and a firearm from vehicles he has stopped this year.

Highway Patrol's Sgt. Charlton Martin nominated Sutley for the award. Martin said, "Sutley's reputation as a K-9 handler and proactive work habits precede his employment with the department. Sutley is the type trooper whose work ethic is infused in everything he does. He is what people in the law enforcement community refer to as a 'five percenter,' that is, someone who never loses desire to intercept criminals and prevent criminal activity before it claims a victim."

Dr. Jack Hawkins Jr., chancellor of Troy University, delivered the keynote address at the ceremony, thanking law enforcement agencies for their service to the public.



PCOs Go Out of Way to Help

From left, Lt. Col. Bubba Bingham, Darby, Russell, Champion, and Murphy in the director's office Nov. 5.

PCO IIs Chanel Russell, Brenda Darby and Wayne Champion were recognized and commended for outstanding job performance by Col. J. Christopher Murphy at a Nov. 5 ceremony in the director's office, after the three were instrumental in locating and securing emergency help for a gravely ill individual.

Their efforts began Sept. 19, when a distressed individual placed a call to the Birmingham Post concerning a dear friend residing in South Dakota. The friend had fallen and had lain on the floor of his RV for two days without food or water. He was disorientated and unable to provide an exact location of the RV, and was in danger of going into diabetic shock.

Determined to help, Russell stayed on the phone, comforting the distressed friend while Darby contacted the victim by calling his cell phone. Darby inquired about the victim's current health condition and location. Although he was unable to provide an exact location, he was able to provide bits and pieces of information. Champion used this information to narrow down a precise location using a map off of the Internet and an atlas kept in the radio room.

Champion and Darby were able to trace his location by getting him to answer questions they asked. After Champion and Darby were able to pinpoint the nearest town to the victim, Russell terminated the call with the friend, and contacted the South Dakota Highway Patrol. The SDHP then relayed the call to the local sheriff's department, and medical assistance was dispatched to the victim.

Before calling the Birmingham Post, the victim's friend first contacted local authorities, with no success. She was told that because the victim was out of their area, there was nothing that could be done about the emergency. Distraught and frustrated by the response she had gotten, the woman then asked for a police officer to be sent to her residence. The officer echoed the first response, telling her that there was nothing that he could do to help.

PCO III Dana McGee expressed gratitude for Russell, Darby and Champion for their professionalism and dedication. "These PCOs should be commended for their diligence in going that extra mile in assisting someone, even as far away as South Dakota," said McGee. "Not many people realize how often these types of calls come in to our radio room, nor do they realize how these calls are handled. These PCOs are our department's unsung heroes. They handled this call, while never letting the other duties assigned to them fall to the wayside. They also never ask for recognition for a job they continue to do so well every day," said McGee.

Troopers Emphasize DUI Enforcement During Holidays

Alabama state troopers greeted the holiday season with special campaigns to combat drunken driving in their relentless work to ensure the safety of motorists in Alabama. The Thanksgiving edition of the ongoing "Take Back Our Highways" safety campaign Nov. 19-26 placed special emphasize on sobriety checkpoints and patrols during the week of Thanksgiving. A second holiday campaign will occur during the Christmas holidays.

Law enforcement agencies nationwide traditionally focus on impaired driving enforce-

ment during the holidays, and Alabama's troopers are working to uphold that life-saving tradition, said Col. J. Christopher Murphy, director of Department of Public Safety.

"Troopers care about safety. They are working to ensure this holiday season is a joyous time unmarred by the tragic consequences of an alcohol-related crash," said Murphy. As with previous "Take Back Our Highways" campaigns, all available troopers joined with local law enforcement agencies in cracking down on dangerous driving, with stepped-up sobriety patrols and checkpoints.

Nine recently acquired BAT-mobiles were used by troopers in establishing DUI checkpoints statewide during the Thanksgiving enforcement period. Equipped with breath alcohol testing equipment, the trucks allow for on-scene processing of impaired drivers and also serve as temporary holding facilities. Grant funding for the BAT-mobiles was awarded by Gov. Bob Riley and administered by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs. The Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences provided chemical breath-testing equipment for the vehicles.

Murphy said the primary goal of troopers is to prevent crashes and save lives. He stated that trooper-reported traffic fatalities were down by 120 as of Dec. 1, compared with the same period in 2007. Troopers are committed to further reducing fatalities throughout the holidays.



Task Force Zero sobriety checkpoints were a common sight during the month of November, like this one in Elmore County Nov. 14.

"An impaired driver behind the wheel is a crash waiting to happen," he said. "We are committed to preventing crashes, injuries and fatalities involving alcohol by identifying and removing impaired drivers from the roadway."

Murphy said troopers also are seeking help from motorists to ensure safety throughout the holiday season. Troopers issued a reminder about the importance of using seat belts, following all the traffic laws, and driving with care and caution.

"Distractions abound during the holiday season, so please remember to focus first and foremost on the driving task," said Murphy. "Your safety and that of your passengers and fellow motorists depend on it."



Motor Carrier Targets Aggressive Cars and Trucks

Vondereau, Van Luchene, and Maj. Roscoe Howell at the TACT kick-off luncheon. Howell offered remarks on the TACT program in his address.

The Motor Carrier Safety Unit held the kick-off meeting and luncheon for the TACT program at the Marriott Renaissance Hotel in Montgomery on Nov. 3. TACT – Ticketing Aggressive Cars and Trucks – is the product of planning between the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to develop a high-visibility traffic enforcement program using communication, enforcement, and evaluation activities to reduce commercial motor vehicle crashes, fatalities, and injuries.

Judy Van Luchene, Alabama Division administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and Gene Vondereau, director of Member Services and Safety of the Alabama Trucking Association, joined the luncheon in support of the program.

The TACT program is designed to raise safety awareness among car and truck drivers through outreach, education, and evaluation with targeted enforcement activities. At the kick-off, the MCSU openly invited all commercial vehicle enforcement officers to join in promoting awareness during planned enforcement details next year.

Helping the Motor Carrier Safety Unit prepare for implementation of the TACT program is a \$55,000 TACT readiness grant, funded through the 2008 Federal Motor Carrier Safety High Priority Funds.



“We are taking TACT very seriously,” said Lt. Jack Clark. “In the past, states with TACT enforcement typically had three weeks of aggressive details in a given year. In our first year onboard, Alabama will see seven weeks of aggressive details, three of which local law enforcement will join in on.”

Last year’s pilot of the TACT program began with the participation of four states. Two more joined this year, Alabama and Colorado, and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration hopes eventually to have participation from all 50 states.

“We aim to be the lead agency in the country participating in the TACT program,” said Clark. “With the CARE data from the University of Alabama we have available to us, and with the participation of the Alabama Trucking Association, we are able to specifically target the most problematic areas in the state.”

Colonel's Update Meetings Keep DPS Employees Informed



As a means of keeping all employees informed about the goings-on at DPS, Col. J. Christopher Murphy and Lt. Col. F.A. “Bubba” Bingham headed up a series of “update meetings” at Headquarters and at posts statewide during the month of November.

At the meetings, Murphy and Bingham outlined and praised the excellent work of employees throughout the department.

Murphy commended the Service Division’s successful inventory, locating and identifying all but 17 missing pieces of property out of a total of more than 1,000. “DPS inventory has gone from being among the worst in the state, to among the best,” Murphy said. “It is simply amazing, and I am proud of the Service Division for pulling off such a feat.”

The directors noted founding of the Alabama Fusion Center, housed in office space at RSA Headquarters, and the center’s merger with the Criminal Information Center. In the works since February 2007, the center represents a new focus on data- and information-sharing to prevent terrorism and other crimes.

Drawing attention also was the department’s acquisition of the Bell 407, thanks to a U.S. Department of Justice grant. The versatility of the new helicopter — including search and rescue, firefighting, tactical team insertion, and advance FLIR capabilities — is a great asset for law enforcement.

Murphy reminded that the primary and founding responsibility of DPS is Highway Patrol. He outlined the successes of the “Take Back Our Highways” campaigns and the reduction of trooper-worked fatalities. He noted the nine new Task Force Zero BAT-mobiles, acquired with grants administered by the Department of Economic and Community Affairs and equipped with aid of the Department of Forensic Sciences. Stationed throughout Alabama to assist in aggressive DUI enforcement, the new trucks are heavily featured in the next iteration of “Take Back Our Highways,” during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday periods.

Among other areas of DPS responsibility, Driver License drew acclaim for improving customer service, IT support and DL fraud investigations; and Protective Services’ work in Protective Services and Capitol Police was recognized. Budgeting concerns were also a topic of discussion at the update meetings, and Financial Services was heralded for its excellent work in managing the budget.

Murphy and Bingham also noted their “open-door” policy. “DPS is a family,” Murphy said. “If you see us in the halls, don’t hesitate to approach us. I may feel the need to approach you directly, and I would only expect you to do the same.”



Captains Assemble for Leadership Training

The Department of Public Safety's captains took part in the first-ever leadership development training for captains Nov. 3-6 at the Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center in Selma. Col. J. Christopher Murphy, Lt. Col. F.A. "Bubba" Bingham, the six division chiefs and others addressed the captains about leadership and different aspects of their responsibilities.

The training placed a special emphasis on developing positive habits for leaders, and for preparing for specific challenges captains face. Special consideration also was given to budgeting processes with respect to each division and its functions at DPS.

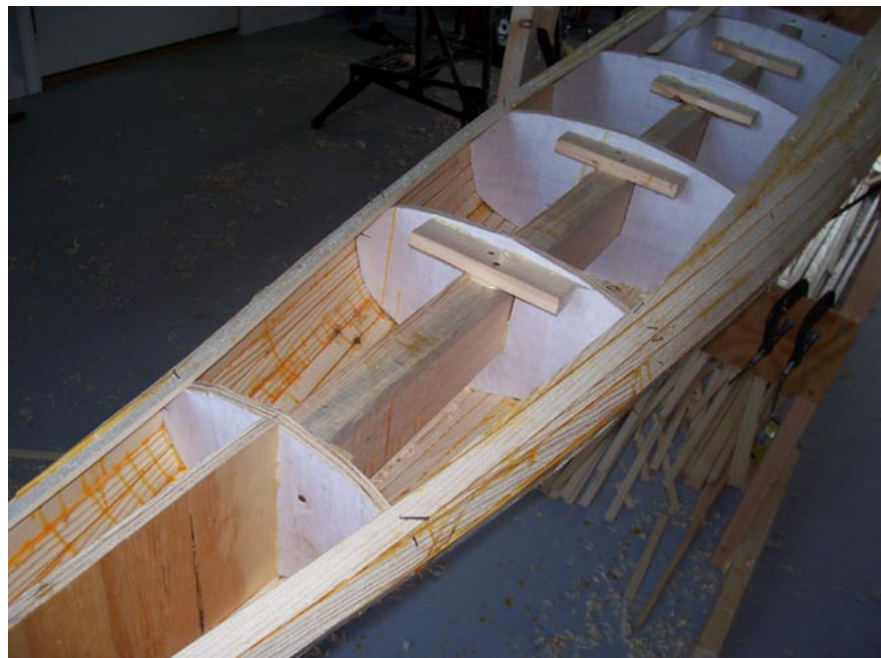
Auburn coach Tommy Tuberville was a special guest at the training, speaking about the many types of leaders, both good and bad. "One type of leader is someone who simply wanders around and lets others make decisions for you," said Tuberville. "Others may want to control virtually everything. I've noticed that the best leaders guide others in terms of your personality. You have to become a leader from within."



Tuberville affirmed that loyalty is one of the best attributes of a leader. He said there is a chemistry between leaders and staff that allows for success, and the values that leaders impart on those surrounding them leave a lasting impression. The coach acknowledged his belief that the country's best leaders come from the military and public safety communities.

On Our Own Time: *Jack's Kayak*

By year's end, DPS Financial Services guru Jack McDaniel hopes to put the finishing touches on a project that he has been diligently working on since June. With such a big project going on, you might expect to see spreadsheets and figures with predictions that only he or Fran Copeland could explain.



As shown above, the form retains the shape of the unfinished boat until both coats of epoxy are applied to the white pine.

Rather, evidence of the project is much more tangible than figures in an Excel document. Better still, you don't have to be a mathematician to understand and truly appreciate the beauty of his work.

After having his interest piqued by finding a little book on Amazon.com about handmade kayaks, McDaniel, as accountant turned wood-worker, decided to try his hand at building one of his own.



"The first step is to build a form, or mold, for the boat," said McDaniel. "This gives the boat its shape and gives you something to nail and glue the strips of pine to."

McDaniel carefully and meticulously sorted through the 1x6 strips of white pine for his boat, avoiding pieces with knot holes. After covering the form with the 8-foot-long strips of pine, he then tapered the pieces and planed and smoothed them to a mere quarter inch in thickness.

Left, McDaniel glues in the final strip of white pine. Detail shows each strip had to be carefully shaped and glued. The finishing nails hold the pine to the form.

After planing the pine, McDaniel covered the kayak with a fiberglass cloth and coated it in epoxy resin. The form was then pried out of the kayak, and the inside of the vessel was covered with the same material.

“The kayak was flexible until both sides were coated with fiberglass and epoxy,” said McDaniel. “Now, the boat is totally solid. The kayak is deceptively light, and much stiffer than its appearance would have you believe.”

“I’m about 75 percent complete with the kayak, with only the installation of the bulkheads, the joining of the two halves of the boat, and the final coat of epoxy,” said McDaniel.



The finished kayak will be long, 17 feet in fact. The boat is also slender, 22 and one-half inches wide, and only 12 inches from top to bottom. “I jokingly refer to the boat as firewood,” McDaniel said, “but realistically, the boat should be quite swift once it gets in the water.”

This is the first major project for McDaniel since building his own shop in 2005. Next, he hopes to build his own engine, as he recently acquired a lathe to enable him to do just that, although his daughters may encourage him to build another boat.

“Jack’s kayak” is prepping for its maiden voyage at Gold Star Park in Wetumpka. “My kids are excited, and so am I. This project has been a lot of fun,” said McDaniel.



Chili Warms Heart, Soul

Each year, the children of Eastern Hills Academy provide chili for the Montgomery Post, as a way of giving back and showing appreciation. Brenda Curenton, administrator of Eastern Hills said, “What troopers do for our community is a blessing to all of our school families. Thank you all.”

The delivery on Nov. 20 marked the fifth year children from Eastern Hills provided chili for the Montgomery Post.

New Printer in Photographic Services Does More in Less Time

Photographic Services recently acquired a new machine to greatly improve productivity of the unit.

Replacing its aging minilab is the new Noritsu 3703, a unit better equipped to handle digital photography, compared with traditional film media.



Giles and Karen Kimball at one of the two workstations of the Noritsu 3703.

“Our old machine could print digital photos, but it was only really optimized to handle film,” said Tommy Giles. “That really creates a bit of a problem because most of what I shoot now, I do with digital cameras. This new machine is faster with film and with digital media.”

The Noritsu 3703 is equipped with two separate workstations and houses four magazines of paper, enabling the printing of color photographs in four-, five-, 10-, and 12-inch sizes. A fifth magazine of paper contains specially formulated paper to print black and white photos using color-chemistry techniques.

The new system is also well equipped to handle a wide array media. From analog sources, the Noritsu 3703 can handle 35 mm and 120 mm film and slides, 4x5 negatives, and can scan documents from a flatbed scanner. As for digital, the machine literally can handle anything you throw at it, be it cd's or dvds, usb flash drives, various media cards, and e-mailed images of at least 1.5 megabytes in size. Also unique to the new machine is the ability to print RAW image files.

The new minilab, superior in every way to its predecessor, is also saving valuable work time for Photographic Services. While the old machine involved a daily setup of 30 to 40 minutes, the new machine can run a self-setup and auto-calibrate each morning before the Photographic Services team arrives.

“It’s a definite time-saver,” said Giles.

Apparently, it is a money-saver as well. The new machine cost \$162,000, which is approximately \$20,000 less than the five-year-old machine it is replacing. Additionally, Photographic Services received a credit of \$22,500 for selling back its old machine.

Funds for the purchase of photographic equipment are raised entirely through the sales of photographs generated by the unit, mainly to insurance companies or lawyers interested in wreck photos for analysis. “Photographic Services is a self-sustaining unit,” said Giles. “The only money we draw from the General Fund pays for salaries.”



People You Know!

New Employees

Kim Card	11.03.08	Programmer Analyst Assoc.	DL/Information Services
Robin Edwards	10.16.08	ASA I	ABI/Identification Unit
Jodi Fuqua	11.03.08	ASA I	DL/Information Services
Allison Lance	10.16.08	ASA I	DL/Medical Unit
Felecia McAlpine	11.03.08	PCO I	HP/Mobile
Laura Page	10.16.08	PCO I	HP/Mobile
Kathy Phillips	10.16.08	PCO I	HP/Tuscaloosa
Constance Stephens	10.16.08	PCO I	HP/Huntsville
Barbara Toney	11.03.08	ASA I	DL/Medical Unit

Promotions

Dorothy Alexander	10.16.08	ASA II	SER/Supply
Loyd Arrington	11.01.08	Corporal	PS/Dignitary Protection
Edward Bennett	11.01.08	Corporal	ADM/ACJTC
Chad Blankinchip	11.01.08	Corporal	ADM/ACJTC
Michael Britton	11.01.08	Corporal	ADM/ACJTC
Jason Brown	11.01.08	Corporal	ABI/Investigative Operations
Zackery Burr	11.01.08	Attorney I/II	ADM/Legal
Wesley Clarke	11.01.08	Lieutenant	ABI/Investigative Support
David Collier	11.01.08	PCO II	HP/Dothan
Jackie Hornsby	11.01.08	Corporal	ABI/Investigative Support
Dwayne Hosea	11.01.08	Corporal	ADM/ACJTC
Randy Johnson	11.01.08	Corporal	HP/Baldwin County
Wendell Lewis	11.01.08	Sergeant	ABI/Training Officer
Darryl Littleton	11.01.08	Corporal	PS/Dignitary Protection
Tamekia Robinson	11.01.08	PCO II	HP/Dothan
Charles Rogers	11.01.08	Corporal	DL/Dothan Examining
Ronald Short	11.01.08	Captain	ABI/Region C
Antony Smith	11.01.08	Corporal	PS/Dignitary Protection
Steven Smith	11.01.08	Corporal	ADM/PIE
Vaughn Souders	11.01.08	Corporal	ABI/Eradication

Transfers

James Agerton	10.16.08	Sergeant	ABI/Investigative Support
Laurie Evans	10.16.08	Forensic Tech. Examiner	ABI/Investigative Support
Howard Fells	11.01.08	Trooper	ADM/ACJTC
Thomas Ford	11.01.08	Captain	HP/Mobile
Glenn Furukawa	11.01.08	Trooper	ADM/ACJTC
Harriet Godwin	10.16.08	Crim. Intelligence Analyst	ABI/Fusion Center
Rodney Hawkins	11.01.08	Trooper	HP/Coffee County
Melissa Hubbard	11.01.08	Corporal	ADM/ACJTC
Lynette Johnson	10.16.08	Forensic Tech. Examiner	ABI/Investigative Support
Barbara Madsen	10.16.08	ASA II	DL/Huntsville Examining
Tim McGlothlin	11.01.08	Captain	ABI/Investigative Operations
Carol McMichen	10.16.08	Crim. Intelligence Analyst	ABI/Fusion Center
Edward Odum	11.01.08	Captain	DL/Mobile Examining
Andy Pike	11.01.08	Corporal	DL/Huntsville Examining



People You Know!

Transfers (continued)

Wade Pruitt	10.16.08	Lieutenant	ABI/Fusion Center
Patty Smith	10.16.08	ASA II	ABI/Fusion Center
Geraldine Taylor	11.01.08	DL Examiner I	DL/Birmingham Examining
Robert Thompson	10.16.08	Trooper	ABI/Investigative Support
Spencer Traywick	10.16.08	Trooper	ABI/Investigative Support
Renita Ward	10.16.08	Crim. Intelligence Analyst	ABI/Fusion Center
Thomas Whitten	10.16.08	Trooper	ABI/Investigative Support

Resignations

Terrance Burrell	10.09.08	Trooper	HP/Mobile
Charles Hedrick	11.05.08	PCO I	HP/Tuscaloosa
Misty Price	10.16.08	ASA II	DL/Information Services
George Simpson	10.17.08	DL Examiner I	DL/Huntsville Examining

Retirements

Beverly Hill	10.31.08	Crim. Intelligence Analyst	ABI/Fusion Center
Janet Brantley	10.31.08	Crim. Intelligence Analyst	ABI/Fusion Center

People You Know: Spotlight on Lila Childree



DPS welcomes Lila Childree as the new Inventory Control officer for Public Safety. Working with Deric McCrory in the Service Division, Childree is responsible for maintaining inventory for the Administrative, ABI and Protective Services divisions. Childree brings 14 years of state service and experience to DPS. She previously worked with the Marine Police Division of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, where her responsibilities included purchasing, budgets and inventory. Childree is the mother of three and has five grandchildren.

Alabama Department of



Public Safety

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RSA Criminal Justice Center Montgomery, Ala.



ACJTC TRAINING SCHEDULE - DECEMBER 2008

Date	Event
Dec 1	Taser Certification
2	In-service Make-up
8-11	Radar/LIDAR School
9-11	Select Fire
15-19	Patrol Rifle (outside agencies)

Questions? Comments? Concerns?

STAY IN TOUCH WITH *THE BLUE LIGHT*.

PLEASE E-MAIL ALL REQUESTS TO:

RYAN.GODFREY@DPS.ALABAMA.GOV

On Your Calendar

Thursday, December 25

Christmas Day

Thursday, January 1

New Year's Day

Monday, January 19

Martin Luther King Day

Monday, February 16

President's Day

To Whom it May Concern:

Just before sunset on Sunday, Nov. 2, my wife and I were on Interstate 65 just outside of Cullman. We were on our way to pick up a van in Huntsville when the vehicle we were riding in had a flat tire on the rear wheel of the driver's side. I pulled off onto the shoulder as far as I could and began to change the tire. I was about half finished when I looked up and saw a state trooper with his lights on backing up on the shoulder to my vehicle. His presence caused a noticeable slowing down of traffic and also caused many more vehicles to move into the outside lane. Tpr. Ellis Folsom exited his vehicle and came to meet me, offering help. I told Folsom we would stay in the area until we could get the tire replaced, and he recommended a place to stay and a couple of places to eat. He also told me that if we needed anything, we could call *HP and ask for him, and he would help in any way he could. I know that police are trained to be courteous and helpful to motorists in trouble, but somehow Tpr. Folsom was more than that. He gave me the distinct impression that I was a close friend whom he'd known for years and seemed genuinely concerned. I came away from an aggravating and unsettling situation completely calm and feeling as though someone was really watching my back. I believe Tpr. Folsom exemplifies exactly what a law enforcement officer should be - courteous, kind, and helpful. The Department of Public Safety should have every reason to be proud of Tpr. Folsom and the way he represents the department.

Sincerely,

Monte Briggs